UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF MUSIC

Thursday, February 4, 2010
12:10 pm. Walter Hall

THURSDAYS AT NOON

Henri-Paul Sicsic, piano
Etsuko Kimura, violin
Paul Meyer, violin
Katharine Rapoport, viola
Paul Widner, cello

PROGRAM

Piano Quintet in F minor, op. 34 — **Johannes Brahms** (1833-1897)

Allegro non troppo
Andante, un poco adagio
Scherzo: Allegro
Finale: Poco sostenuto - Allegro non troppo - Presto, non troppo

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NEXT ON THURSDAYS AT NOON

February 11
Opera a Casa
Pianists Mia Bach and Andrea Grant perform operatic music arranged for the piano. With flutist Anna Kolosowski and guest speaker Ginette Duplessis.

09|10
www.music.utoronto.ca

BIOGRAPHIES

A concerto soloist, recitalist and chamber musician, pianist **HENRI-PAUL SICSIC** has appeared with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Maryland Symphony Orchestra, Pasadena Philharmonic, and the Orchestre Philharmonique de Nice, among others. His performances have been aired in New York City on WQXR radio, on the National French program *France Musique* in other major centers in the U.S. and on the CBC. Henri-Paul Sicsic is equally respected as a teacher, a mentor to his students, and as a pianist, striving to be the living demonstration of his own teaching and learning. He is the recipient of the prestigious Killam Teaching Prize, one of the highest academic honours awarded in Canadian universities.

Sicsic taught at Rice University in the U.S., and was a member of the piano faculty at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver for thirteen years. His students have distinguished themselves at the national and international levels, winning Fulbright and Canada Council grants and top prizes and awards at major competitions. His teachers include Juliette Audibert-Lambert (a student of Gabriel Fauré and Alfred Cortot), Pierre Sancan, and renowned master teacher John Perry.

Engagements for the 2009-2010 season include performances and master classes in France (Paris, Nice) Spain (Burgos), Russia (St Petersburg), Montenegro, the U.S. (Seattle, Phoenix, North Carolina) and Canada (Ontario, British Columbia). Sicsic joined the Faculty of Music, University of Toronto in July 2007. He is a proponent of the Alexander Technique and also studies Tai Chi Chuan. He enjoys French cuisine and is an avid runner.

ETSUKO KIMURA is currently assistant concertmaster with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. One of the exciting performers of her generation, she catapulted to the international stage as a prizewinner of the 24th Joseph Szigeti International Violin Competition. Born and raised in Japan, she studied violin performance with Tomotada Soh at the Osaka College of Music, and later with Lorand Fenyves in Canada. Etsuko has been a featured soloist with orchestras internationally, and has lead a number of premier ensembles in the past including the Kobe City Chamber Orchestra in Japan, and Sinfonia Toronto. Her performances can be heard frequently on the radio. Etsuko currently teaches at the Faculty of Music at the University of Toronto.

PAUL MEYER's interest in an orchestral career was fostered in his youth through exposure to the regular televised broadcasts of the New York Philharmonic. His musical mother took him to his first violin lesson at age eight. One of the most important places in his musical development was the five summers he spent attending the Banff School of Fine Arts where he met some of his future colleagues in the Toronto Symphony Orchestra.

Born in Kentucky, Paul's first music lessons were with Sr. Mary Cecilia at Brescia College, and later studied with Frederic Balazs, Paul Rolland, Josef Gingold and Isidore Cohen. Paul joined the TSO in 1979 and became principal second violin in 2000.

Paul Meyer became a Canadian citizen in 1995.

Recently, Paul Meyer has organized a concert of solo violin music celebrating the 150th birthday of Belgian composer Eugène Ysaÿe; played a programme on period instruments on the Academy Concert Series; played a duo recital with TSO Principal Cellist Winona Zelenka; and gave a solo recital at Heliconian Hall including his new arrangement for string quartet of the Vieuxtemps Violin Concerto No. 5.

KATHARINE RAPOPORT teaches violin and viola performance, chamber music, and graduate seminars in String Pedagogy and String Literature at the Faculty of Music.

Her recent performances include two recitals of Jewish music at the Limmud Festival, Colorado, a trio collaboration including Stravinsky's *Soldier's Tale* and works by Bruch and Khachaturian at University of Prince Edward Island Chamber Music Series, and a performance of Canadian works for solo viola on the New Music Series at University of Illinois, where she also gave a masterclass. She is a member of Esprit Orchestra.

After earning her M.A. from Cambridge University and her postgraduate Certificate of Advanced Studies in violin from the Guildhall School of Music, London, she continued her postgraduate studies in Germany and Vienna before moving to Canada. Her principal teachers were Yfrah Neaman, Bruno Giuranna, and Hatto Beyerle, the founding violist of the Alban Berg Quartet.

She is the author of *Violin For Dummies* in the popular series published by Wiley's.

As a cellist and teacher, **PAUL WIDNER** has appeared throughout Europe, the United States and Canada as soloist, chamber, and orchestral musician. Since 1985, Mr. Widner has been the assistant principal cellist with the Canadian Opera Company orchestra. Much sought after as a chamber musician, he has performed with a variety of chamber groups, including the Made-in-Canada piano quartet, the Amaro quartet and the Toronto Chamber Players. He was also a founding member of the Amadeus Ensemble. He is on the faculty of the Glenn Gould School and the University of Toronto and was acting cello professor at the University of Western Ontario in 2007-2008. He has been invited to conduct master classes and workshops at several schools throughout Canada, including the University of British Columbia, the Banff Centre and the Royal Conservatory of Music and is on the faculty of the Music at Port Milford Summer Chamber Music Festival. His expertise has been in the field of contemporary music. He has been the principal cellist with the Esprit Orchestra since 1985, a founding member of the Continuum ensemble and performs regularly with New Music Concerts, Arraymusic and Soundstreams and has debuted and commissioned numerous Canadian works. He has recently performed as soloist in the North American premiere of the Penderecki *Concerto Grosso for three cellos and orchestra* and *Seven Words* by Sofia Gubaidulina. Mr. Widner records with CBC Records and other independent labels and appeared with soprano Isabel Bayrakdarian on *Azulao* - a recording for voice and cello ensemble, which won a Juno Award for best classical vocal album. Mr. Widner has performed at various international festivals including the Huddersfield New Music Festival, Athens Festival, Die Neue Musik in Chicago, the Gaudemus and Shift Festivals in Amsterdam, the Edinburgh Festival and the Montreal New Music Festival.